

Message Text

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67

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 L-03

H-03 SSO-00 CCO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /103 W

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INFO COMDT COGARD WASHDC

COGD SEVEN MIAMI FLA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, XL

SUBJECT: TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS OBTAIN PATROL BOAT

1. THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE "POACHERS BEWARE" WAS EXTRACTED FROM THE CONCH NEWS, THE TURKS AND CAICOS WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS FOR THE FIRST TIME, HAS A WELL TESTED (THERE ARE OVER 2,000 SIMILAR BOATS IN USE AROUND THE WORLD) AND WELL FITTED PATROL BOAT - THE 31 FOOT BERTRAM WATCHFUL. SHE IS FITTED WITH RADAR, SONAR, DEPTH SOUNDERS SOPHISTICATED RADIO EQUIPMENT AS WELL AS GEAR FOR LONG LINING AND ASSISTING THE TAGGING PROGRAMME. SHE IS OPERATED BY THE FISHERIES DEPT WITH THREE OBJECTIVES, ACCORDING TO TONY PAE. "THE BOAT CAN PROTECT THE BANKS FROM POACHERS; SHE IS FAST AND HAS THE RADAR AND OTHER SPECIAL DEVICES. SHE CAN TAKE PART IN RESCUE AT SEA. SHE IS A WORK BOAT FOR THE CONTINUING PROGRAMME OF RESEARCH INTO THE IMPORTANT NATURAL MARINE RESOURCE OF OUR WATERS. WITH HER TWO BIG CUMMINGS DIESELS - GUARANTEED FOR TWO YEARS - SHE CAN MOVE VERY FAST ACROSS THE BANKS AND EVEN IN 9 FOOT WAVES WHEN I BROUGHT HER DOWN FROM FLORIDA WE MADE A COMFORTABLE 12 KNOTS.

THE BOAT, AS FITTED, COST AROUND \$45,000, PAID FOR BY UNCLASSIFIED

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BRITISH CAPITAL AID FUNDS AS APPROVED BY STATE COUNCIL AND

DEV DIV. PRIVATELY, CRITICISMS HAVE BEEN MADE THAT THIS IS
"WASTEFUL" SPENDING, BUT OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN CONVINCED THE
PATROL BOAT IS AN ESSENTIAL AND VALUABLE TOOL TO PROTECT AND
ASSIST THE MAJOR PRODUCTIVE INDUSTRY IN THE ISLANDS.

2. COMMENT: IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO LEARN HOW MUCH OF THE
COST OF WATCHFUL WILL BE BORNE BY THE F/V SEAHAWK AND
WHETHER AN ACTIVE ANTI POACHER CAMPAIGN WILL BE THE MEANS FOR
PROVIDING OPERATING FUNDS FOR THE WATCHFUL.
SPIERS

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